

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 209346

FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT PRETORIA 4761 ACTION SECSATE DATED AUG 16:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4761

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SOPN, SF, US

SUBJECT: SAG REACTION TO AMBASSADOR'S AUGUST 8 SPEECH

REFS: PRETORIA 4596, PRETORIA 4597 ET SEQ.

1. IN WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE VERY MILD PRESENTATION, BRAND
FOURIE TOOK JUST A FEW MINUTES OUT OF ABOUT 40-MINUTE
DISCUSSION OF OTHER MATTERS THIS MORNING TO REPROACH
ME FOR MUCH QUOTED PASSAGE OF AUGUST 8 SPEECH IN WHICH I
EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT POLICY WHICH AIMED AT ULTIMATE SITUATION
IN WHICH THEREWOULD BE NO BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN COULD ONLY LEAD
TO RESISTANCE, GREATER VIOLENCE, CONDITIONS OF CIVIL WAR AND
REGIONAL CONFLICT, AND TO THE ULTIMATE INVOLVEMENT OF OUTSIDE
POWERS. HE SAID THAT WHILE SAG COULD NOT DICTATE TO ME WHAT
MY VIEWS OR THOSE OF MY GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE, IT FEELS THAT
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SAYING THESE THINGS FROM A PUBLIC PLATFORM IN SOUTH AFRICA
CONSTITUTES TAKING PART IN PARTY POLICAL ACTIVITIES (FOURIE AT
FIRST USED THE WORD CAMPAIGNING THEN CHANGED IT TO
ACTIVITIES) WHICH IS REGARDED AS DIRECT INTERFERENCE AND AS SUCH
IS "RESENTED, TO PUT IT MILDLY." I SAID I TOOK NOTE OF WHAT
HE SAID AND ADDED THAT IT WAS NOT MY WISH TO COMMUNICATE TO
THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE MEDIA OR BECOME INVOLVED IN PARTY

POLITICS. HE SAID NO MORE AND WE WENT ON TO OTHER SUBJECTS.
HE WAS FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT AND WHEN MAKING APPOINTMENT FOR
TODAY'S MEETING ACCEPTED DINNER INVITATION FOR NEXT MONTH.

2. IT SEEMS QUITE CLEAR FROM CONNIE MULDER'S SPEECH TO NATAL
PARTY CONGRESS AND TRANSVALER EDITORIAL (REPORTED SEPTELS) THAT
I HIT ON ISSUE THAT IS CONTROVERSIAL WITHIN NATIONAL PARTY
ITSELF. MULDER IS REITERATING HIS LINE ABOUT NO BLACK SOUTH
AFRICANS, WHICH MAY BE LITTLE MORE THAN RHETORIC TO STAKE A
CLAIM TO TRUE AFRIKANER CONSERVATISM WITH SOME PRAGMATISM
HIDDEN UNDERNEATH, OR MAY INDEED BE AN EXAMPLE OF IDEOLOGICAL
RIGIDITY. I SUSPECT A BIT OF THE FORMER IS POSSIBLE, BUT IF
THE NATIONAL PARTY PERSISTS IN THE HARD LINE OF IDEOLOGICAL
RIGIDITY, THEN MY REMARKS MAY PROVE TO BE TRAGICALLY TRUE OVER
THE LONG RUN WHETHER THEY WERE AS DIPLOMATICALLY QUALIFIED
AS THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN OR NOT.
EDMONDSON UNQTE VANCE

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